1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal-

fefs any thing more than what they had done voluntarily before.

Since this time all things are intirely quiet there; and it is hoped they will continue ſo, affairs being brought into ſuch order, that the natives themſelves could not wiſh for more, being only obliged to pay their taxes, without the leaſt oppreſſion, which conſiſt only in one ſkin for every man of ſuch creatures as he is uſed to hunt, ſuch as ſables, foxes, or ſea beavers. Juſtice, except in criminal caſes, is adminiſtered by their own chieftains. The Coſſacks are forbidden to demand former debts, which they pretended were due from the natives. Their principal happineſs conſiſts in the converſion of ſeveral of them to Chriſtianity; to which end her Majeſty has been graciouſly pleaſed to appoint miſſionaries and ſchoolmaſters, who keep ſchools in the principal villages for the inſtruction of the youth, both natives and Coſſacks; and they begin now to be ſo much improved, that they even laugh at their former barbarity.

CHAP. V.

The preſent STATE *of the* FORTS *and* VILLAGES *of* Kamtſchatka, *with a particular Account of each.*

THERE are five *Ruſſian* forts in *Kamtſchatka*: the 1ſt called the *Bolſcheretſkoi*, the 2d upper *Kamtſchatka*, 3d the lower *Shaltolski*, 4th the haven of *Petropaulauſkay*, and 5th on the river *Tegbil*. The *Bolſcheretſkoi* fort ſtands upon the northen bank of the *Bolſchaia-reka*, or Great River, between the mouths of the rivers *Beeſtra* and *Golſoftka*, 33 verſts from the *Penſchinſka* ſea. The fort is 70 feet ſquare; the eaſt and north ſides are fortified with paliſades, the ſouth and weſt with different

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

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among theſe people the manners and cuſtoms of Ruſſia. This important office was confided, in 1784, to baron de Steinheil, who fixed his reſidence at Nijenei. Affairs calling him elſewhere, he was ſucceeded by M. Schmaleff, who, in accompanying us, was making the tour of his office.

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The government is not purely military; there are ſome tribunals eſtabliſhed for hearing and deciding cauſes and other matters juridically. Such are the tribunals of Tiguil, Ingiga, and Nijenei-Kamtſchatka; they are ſubject to the juriſdiction of the court of Okotſk, in the ſame manner as in Ruſſia the magiſtrates of the ſubordinate towns hold from thoſe of the capital, in whom the final deciſion reſts. There is beſide at Bolcheretſk a kind of conſular juriſdiction, or vocal tribunal, called in Ruſſia *Slovefnoi-ſoud*. The judges are merchants; they take cognizance of all diſputes relating to commerce,

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

692/671/428 R 177 .67 merce, and their decifions are either confirmed or annulled by the court to which they are carried by appeal. The Ruſſian code of laws is the only one that is attended to; it is too well known to require that I ſhould enter into particulars; and I could only repeat what has been already related by various hiſtorians and travellers better informed upon the ſubject than myſelf.

I ought however to add, that the property of the Kamtſchadales devolves, of courſe, upon their deceaſe, to the next heir, or to whomſoever it is bequeathed. The will of the teſtator is equally reſpected, and as literally adhered to, as it could be with thoſe nations of Europe who are moſt ſcrupulous on the ſubject of ſucceſſions.

586 R 177 .58 Divorces are neither practiſed or allowed among the Kamtſchadales. The Ruſſians ſeem to court their alliance, though it procures

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

000 over the remembrance of all the pleaſures of the day.

The next day I was invited to the houſe of the protapope, uncle to the bride, where the entertainment was ſimilar to that of the
177 preceding one, except the fire-work. I have
793 already obſerved, that the protapope is chief of all the churches in Kamtſchatka. The clergy throughout the peninſula are ſubordinate to him, and he has the deciſion of all eccleſiaſtical affairs. His reſidence is at Nijenei. He is an old man, not entirely deprived of his vigour, with a long white beard which flows down upon his breaſt and gives him a truly venerable appearance. His converſation is ſenſible, ſprightly, and calculated to gain him the reſpect and affection of the people.

177 There are two tribunals at Nijenei, one
692 that concerns the governments, and the other takes

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

177 takes cognizance of all mercantile diſputes.
692 The magiſtrate who preſides in the latter, is a kind of burgomaſter, ſubject to the orders of the *gorodnitch*, or governor of the town. We have already ſeen that each of theſe juriſdictions holds from the tribunal of Okotſk, to the governor of which it is accountable for all its proceedings.

563 But what moſt intereſted me at Nijenei, and what I cannot paſs over in ſilence, was my finding there nine Japaneſe, who had been brought thither in the preceding ſummer, from the Aleutienne iſlands, by a Ruſſian veſſel employed in the trade of otter ſkins.

One of the Japaneſe informed me, that he and his companions had embarked in a ſhip of their own country, with an intention of viſiting the more ſouthern Kurilles iſlands, for the purpoſe of trading with the

29:Cochrane T-2 (1821-22) 1824 Kamchadal

181 the extreme of oppression from neglect and mal-
435 administration, for one hundred and twenty years, should not have become wiser and more economical in their habits; on the contrary, one might suppose they were a people but yesterday discovered. They will part with the most valuable furs for a trifling article, or a glass of spirits.

177 I need say nothing of their superstitions, as they
793 are nearly at an end. They now place as much re-
756 liance upon the efforts of the priests, as they formerly did on their shamanes, with this difference only, that to the latter they give many furs, while to the former they only gave a hearty meal.

183 Of laws they have but few of their own, their
554 motto being something like that of the Chinese,
692 " to return evil for evil, and good for good." At
R present they await the arrival of the Chief, of an
177 Officer, or of a Commissary, with a great deal of
.69 ceremony, giving him the best lodging, and acknowledging, if I may so say, his supremacy. Formerly, it appears, they lived in a perfect state of equality and independence of each other, age and expertness in hunting alone being held in estimation or respect.

177 The Kamtchatdales are now supplied with culi-
181 nary utensils and every thing they can require by the Russians; and as they live exactly in the same manner, and in the same description of houses with the latter, I need only refer my readers to an account of a Russian village; in their outward ap-